



# COMMUNITIES OF EXCELLENCE

IDAHO'S CHARTER SCHOOLS PROGRAM GRANT

## CSP Application Introductory Charter School Training

Terry Ryan, CSP Project Director & Bluum CEO

Marc Carignan, CSP Finance Director & Bluum CFO

Amy Felton-Toth, Bluum Director of Federal Grants and Support

### Contact Information

[grantscsp@bluum.org](mailto:grantscsp@bluum.org)

[financecsp@bluum.org](mailto:financecsp@bluum.org)



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# AGENDA

- Introduction and Federal Language – Amy Felton- Toth
- CSP Overview– Terry Ryan
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- Technical Assistance – Amy Felton-Toth
- Eligible Applicants and What Peer Reviewers Look For – Terry
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IDAHO'S CHARTER SCHOOLS PROGRAM GRANT

**APPLICATIONS DUE: Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM MST**

<b>Resource Area</b>	<b>Name/Role</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
Program Questions	Terry Ryan, Project Director	grantscsp@bluum.org
Fiscal/Budget Questions	Marc Carignan, Chief Financial Officer (Primary)	financecsp@bluum.org
RFA-Specific Questions	Amy Felton-Toth, Director, Federal Grants & Support	grantscsp@bluum.org

General Information: [www.bluum.org/Idaho-CSP-Grant/](http://www.bluum.org/Idaho-CSP-Grant/)

# Idaho's Communities of Excellence Program

This is a competitive public charter school grant program funded under the Congressional *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA, Public Law 114-95), which reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Act of 1965 (ESEA).

A public charter school is nonsectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices, and all other operations, and is not affiliated with a sectarian school or religious institution. Public charter schools are open to all students who apply and cannot charge tuition.

A charter school receiving CSP funds must use a lottery if more students apply for admissions to the charter school than can be admitted.



# ESSA Background (Part 1)

Authorized by title V, part B, subpart 1 of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA, Public Law 114-95), which reauthorized the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), the federal Charter Schools Program (CSP) provides funding to State Entities (CFDA number 84.282A) with the purpose “to expand opportunities for all students, particularly traditionally underserved students, to attend public charter schools and meet challenging State academic standards; provide financial assistance for the planning, program design, and initial implementation of charter schools; increase the number of high-quality charter schools available to students across the United States; evaluate the impact of charter schools on student achievement, families, and communities; share best practices between charter schools and other public schools; encourage States to provide facilities support to charter schools; and support efforts to strengthen the charter school authorizing process.”



# ESSA Background (Part 2)

The CSP State Entities program provides financial assistance to State Entities to support charter schools that serve elementary and secondary school students in a given state. Under the program, recipient State Entities make subgrants to eligible applicants for the purpose of opening new public charter schools and replicating and expanding high-quality public charter schools. Grant funds may also be used to provide technical assistance to eligible applicants and authorized public chartering agencies in opening new charter schools and replicating and expanding high-quality charter schools, and to work with authorized public chartering agencies to improve authorizing quality, including developing capacity for, and conducting, fiscal oversight and auditing of charter schools. Public charter schools receiving subgrant funds under the CSP State Entities program also may serve students in early childhood education programs or postsecondary students.



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# CSP Overview

The Charter School Program (CSP) Grant to State Entities program is funded under *Every Student Succeeds Act* (ESSA).

It enables sub-grants to:

- Open and prepare for the operation of new, high-quality **public charter schools**.
- Replicate and expand high-quality **public charter schools**.



# Program Overview

## The 2018 CSP Competition:

- \$400 million in funds with Idaho competing against 15 states: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Delaware, Guam, Indiana, Michigan, New York, Puerto Rico, Colorado, District of Columbia, Iowa, New Hampshire and North Carolina.
- Eight states won: Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Idaho, Delaware, Michigan, New York, and North Carolina.
- **Idaho received \$17,111,111 over 5-years; \$8,939,900 in the first two years.**
- **In 2019, Idaho received an additional \$5,361,111 for a total of \$22,472,222 over five years.**



# Performance Measures

## Idaho's 2018 CSP Grant Objectives (aka Grant Project Goals):

- Increase the number of quality charter school seats by 8,200 students, especially for our most educationally disadvantaged and rural students, through start-up, replication and expansion;
- Support the PCSC in expanding its quality authorizing efforts while disseminating and supporting best practice for other authorizers statewide; and
- Evaluate and disseminate widely the successes and lessons of high-quality charter schools to impact the broader education system.



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# Grant Logistics

## Idaho's \$22,472,222 Application Distribution

- At least 90 percent must be provided in competitive subgrants to eligible applicants.
- At least seven percent must be utilized for state-level technical assistance activities and program evaluation/research. Three percent of this to the Idaho Public Charter School Commission for technical assistance and new school supports.
- No more than three percent for administration.



# Grant Logistics

## 2022 Competitive subgrant competition:

- Schools adding over 450 seats may apply for up to \$1,250,000
- Schools adding 450 seats may apply for up to \$800,000
- Expansion or replication schools must add at least 250 seats

Total subgrant period cannot exceed 18 months for planning and more than 24 months for implementation. For this round, funds need to be spent by **September 30, 2023**.

*Please note: Bluum's grant with the US Department of Education ends September 2023.*



# Grant Logistics

## Subgrant allowable activities

- (a) Preparing teachers, school leaders, and specialized instructional support personnel, including through paying costs associated with –
  - (i) Providing professional development; and
  - (ii) Hiring and compensating, during the eligible applicant’s planning period specified in the application for funds, one or more of the following:
    - (A) Teachers.
    - (B) School Leaders.
    - (C) Specialized instructional support personnel.
  
- (b) Acquiring supplies, training, equipment (including technology), and educational materials (including developing and acquiring instructional materials).



# Grant Logistics

## Subgrant allowable activities (cont.)

(c) Carrying out necessary renovations to ensure that a new school building complies with applicable statutes and regulations, and minor facilities repairs (excluding construction). (Significant restrictions apply).

(d) Providing one-time startup costs associated with providing transportation to students to and from the charter school (Significant restrictions apply).

(e) Carrying out community engagement activities, which may include paying the cost of student and staff recruitment.

(f) Providing for other appropriate, non-sustained costs related to opening, replicating, or expanding high-quality charter schools when such costs cannot be met from other sources.



# Grant Logistics

## Restrictions

- No construction; funding cannot be used to build buildings.
- Our application is a “contract” with the USDOE. Bluum will be held accountable for what is written in the grant.
- Funding cannot be redirected for other uses (e.g. traditional public schools that are not charters).
- Virtual charter schools are not eligible to apply.



# Grant Logistics

## Again, This Is a Competitive Grant Process

- Bluum will fund only high-quality plans, and grant determinations will be made through a rigorous third-party review process (see Rubric).
- There is no guarantee that submitting a proposal will result in funding, or funding at the requested level.
- If more schools meet the criteria to be funded than there are funds available, applications will be ranked to make final decisions about which schools are funded.
- PLEASE READ THE REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY.
- PLEASE MAKE SURE TO TELL YOUR STORY WELL AND CLEARLY.



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# Technical Assistance

Seven percent of total funding must be utilized for state level activities.

Bluum's plan includes:

- Capacity building for new schools, educators and community members.
- Support for Idaho Public Charter School Commission and other authorizers.
- Develop innovative practices and instructional models to share across school settings (e.g. International Baccalaureate, STEM, Career Technical).
- Focus groups with stakeholders and town hall style meetings for sharing findings.
- Research study to evaluate impact of charter schools on student achievement.
- Technical assistance workshops with state and national experts.



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# Eligible Applicants

- Competitive Grant Process.
- Must have an approved charter petition from a state-sanctioned public charter school authorizer.
- Bluum will fund only high-quality plans.
- Applicants that submit proposals that are high-quality and meet the definitions for startup, replication or expansion will be considered after a **rigorous third-party peer review process**.



# Definitions

Must be approved by a state-sanctioned charter school authorizer as:

- **New Charter School** – approved and in planning year or 1<sup>st</sup> year of operations (new LEA).
- **Replication of a High-Quality Charter School** – open a new charter school or campus under an existing LEA charter agreement based upon the educational model of an existing high-quality charter school. (Idaho Arts is a nice example of this)
- **Expansion of a High-Quality Charter School** – significantly increase enrollment or add one or more grades to a high-quality charter school. (Compass was a nice example of this)



# Definitions

## Start-up Schools

### High-quality for start-up schools

- Evidence of a committed board of trustees that own the charter school process and have the demonstrated capacity to deliver for children and families.
- Identified quality instructional leader who is either proven in running a high-performing school and/or has received first-class charter specific training.
- Demonstrated ability to attract, recruit, retain and develop top teaching talent.
- Sustainable business plan and evidence of market-demand for the school.
- Well-conceived facility plan.
- Innovative and effective learning model that meet the needs of disadvantaged and/or rural students.
- Defined and clear transportation plan for students.



# Definitions

## Replication/Expansion

### High-quality for schools currently in operation

- Evidence of strong academic results, including above state average growth and proficiency on ISAT.
- No significant issues identified by authorizer in areas of student safety, school finance, operational management, or statutory/regulatory compliance.
- Success in significantly increasing student achievement, including graduation rates for all students and for each subgroups defined by ESSA (e.g. economically disadvantaged, students with disabilities, Hispanic, and ELL).
- Good standing with authorizer and lenders.
- Evidence of a student waitlist.
- Evidence of strong and stable leadership and governance.



# What Peer Reviewers Look For

**Demonstrate \* Describe \* Explain \* Identify \* Justify \* Outline**

**Applicants need to argue to the reader the reasons why they have specifically chosen a course of action, and why that is directly in alignment with the vision, mission, and overarching goals/learning targets, etc.**



IDAHO'S CHARTER SCHOOLS PROGRAM GRANT

REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS

2022 Federal CSP Subgrant

APPLICATIONS DUE: (Friday, May 13, 2022 5:00 PM MST)



PROGRAM QUESTIONS CONTACT:

Terry Ryan, Project Director | [grantsCSP@bluum.org](mailto:grantsCSP@bluum.org)

FISCAL/BUDGET QUESTIONS CONTACT:

Marc Carignan, Chief Financial Officer | [financeCSP@bluum.org](mailto:financeCSP@bluum.org)

RFA SPECIFIC QUESTIONS CONTACT:

Amy Felton, Director of Federal Grants & Support | [grantsCSP@bluum.org](mailto:grantsCSP@bluum.org)

Please note this update to the instructions on page 25:

- Project Narrative is limited to 25 pages (not including cover page or Executive Summary)

- Board Members will not be required to submit a Conflict of Interest form



# The Rubric

## Refer to the Request for Applications Document

- A. Grant Project Goals (10 points)
- B. Educational Philosophy, Instructional Practices, and Curriculum (20 Points)
- C. Teaching and Learning (6 Points)
- D. Academic Achievement Standards (9 Points)
- E. Student Demand and Community/Local Support (10 Points)
- F. Effectively Serving All Students (12 Points)
- G. Staffing and Professional Development Plan (4 Points)
- H. Financial Management and Monitoring Plan (7 Points)
- I. Board Capacity and Governance Structure (12 Points)
- J. School Leadership and Management (10 Points)

Priority Points (6 Points) Total 106 Points

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2023 COP SUBGRANT RFA

Part II: Rubric:

A. Grant Project Goals				
Identify 2-5 grant project goals, and justify each goal in terms of its value in supporting the planning and implementation of your project school. All goals remaining, including future revisions for each funding year, must fit within one of your overall project goals.				
Selection Criteria	Limited or No Evidence	Moderate Evidence	Strong Evidence	
<p>1) Each grant project goal is a quality goal and the set of goals fully addresses current requirements. It includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least one grant project goal addresses clearly delineated performance criteria for achievement and growth outcomes in SACW subject in Grades 4 and 8 (English Language Arts and mathematics).</li> <li>If setting high school goals, at least one grant project goal addresses the number of students in grade 12 who participate in advanced opportunities, receive industry recognized certification, or participate in a recognized high school apprenticeship program.</li> <li>At least one grant project goal addresses serving a student population within the percent of local demographics.</li> <li>A minimum of three project goals are clearly articulated with measurable metrics and outcomes for each goal.</li> </ul>	0	3	5	
<p>2) There is clear alignment among grant project goals, and the overall mission and goals of the school.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each grant project goal aligns with the mission and vision for the school.</li> <li>Each grant project goal has a justified purpose that supports the school in reaching performance goals.</li> <li>All grant resources and metrics are appropriately reported to support student populations.</li> </ul>	0	3	5	
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>				<b>7/8</b>

Reviewer Comments – Grant Project Goals:



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## OFFICE OF Innovation & Improvement

### Contact Information

Anna Hinton, Director  
Charter School Programs  
U.S. Department of Education, OESE  
400 Maryland Ave SW  
Washington D.C. 20202

 (202) 453-5563

 E-mail

### Expanding Opportunities Through Quality Charter Schools Program (CSP) Grants to State Entities

- Awarded \$77.8 million to eight State Entities
- Support for 300 new, replicating, and expanding public charter schools
- State entity programs provide \$ through charter subgrant competitions

# IDAHO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

## *Contact Information:*

### [Idaho State Board of Education](#)

650 West State Street, 3rd Floor

Boise, ID 83702

P: 208-334-2270

[board@osbe.idaho.gov](mailto:board@osbe.idaho.gov)

- Executive Director, Matt Freeman



# IDAHO PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

## Contact Information:

### [Idaho Public Charter School Commission](#)

304 North 8th St., Suite 242

Boise, ID 83702

P: 208-332-1561

[pcsc@osbe.idaho.gov](mailto:pcsc@osbe.idaho.gov)



- Public Charter School Commission Director    208-332-1594    [Jenn.Thompson@osbe.idaho.gov](mailto:Jenn.Thompson@osbe.idaho.gov)



1010 W Jefferson St Suite 201 Boise, ID 83702

[bluum.org/idaho-csp-grant](http://bluum.org/idaho-csp-grant)

[grantscsp@bluum.org](mailto:grantscsp@bluum.org)

# IDAHO STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## Contact Information:

### [Idaho State Department of Education](https://www.idaho.gov/education)

650 West State Street

Boise, ID 83702

(208) 332-6800

[info@sde.idaho.gov](mailto:info@sde.idaho.gov)

- School Choice Coordinator, Michelle Clement Taylor

(208) 332-6963

[mtaylor@sde.idaho.gov](mailto:mtaylor@sde.idaho.gov)

  
Registration  
form to sign up



The screenshot shows a webpage for the "CHARTER START 101! WORKSHOP". The page has a green header with a building icon and the title. Below the header is a navigation bar with tabs for "Files", "FAQs", "Training", and "Links". The "Training" tab is selected. Underneath, there is a section titled "Training Resources" with a calendar icon. The calendar shows "JULY 16" and "Charter Start! 101 Workshop" for "July 16 - 17, 2018" at the "Idaho State Department of Education". A link for "Charter Start Registration Form" is visible below the calendar.

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# 2022 Round 6 Timeline Q & A

Tue, April 5	Introductory Technical Assistance Webinar
Wed, April 13	Open RFP
Mon, April 11	Charter School Training (Virtual and On Demand)
Fri, May 13	RFP Close
Fri, June 3	Peer Reviews Finalized
Fri, June 10	Management Review Completed
Fri, June 10	Terry Notify Schools via Personal Note
June 13 – 17	Schedule Individual Completeness Check w/ Budget Training
Mon, June 20	Official Notice of Awards – first day expenses can be incurred
Fri, July 1	\$ Begins to be Disbursed to Sub Recipients
September 30, 2023	All grant funds must be spent by this date.





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# THANK YOU



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